REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action of August 3, 2005. It is assumed herein that the application has been revived in accordance with the concurrently-submitted Petition.

Claims 1-64 were previously cancelled without prejudice. Of claims 65-73, claims 68-71 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 65 and 72 have been amended in terms which more clearly define the present invention. New claims 74-79 have been added. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, currently claims 65-67 and 72-79 are now presented and pending in this application. Claims 65 and 74 are the only independent claims. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

In the Office Action, claims 65-73 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,018,722 (Ray et al.). As shown above, independent claim 65 has been amended, and new independent claim 74 has been drafted, in terms which more clearly define the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 65 and 74, together with the remaining claims respectively dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for the following reasons.

In particular, Applicants have previously argued the advantages of their novel "financial advisor computer" connection in the inventive systems as enabling the financial advisor to be alerted *in real-time* to a client order to trade a selected financial instrument, and for the financial advisor to be thereby enabled *in real-time* to act, i.e., before the trade is executed or with advice on a blocked trade. Applicants have found no teaching or suggestion of this feature in the newly-cited reference to Ray et al. Nevertheless, in order to emphasize the distinctions of the present invention from Ray et al., Applicants have amended independent claim 65, and drafted new independent claim 74, to additionally recite the

multistep client order/validation/client approval procedure that provides the financial advisor

with the opportunity to act. Support for this operation and the corresponding claim

recitations may be found throughout the specification including, but not limited to, page 4,

lines 4-9 and 16-20, page 6, lines 15-26, page 7, lines 6-16, page 10, line 29-page 12, line 2,

and page 22, line 11-page 23, line 15.

Thus, claim 65 has been amended to include the following additional limitations:

"such that in response to a client of a user of the financial advisor
computer entering an order to trade a financial instrument:

the mainframe computer transmits an alert in real-time to the financial
advisor computer including information pertaining to the trade,

the mainframe computer determines whether the order is validated or
not, and notifies the client of successful validation or non-validation,
respectively,

in the case of successful validation, after notifying the client of
successful validation, the mainframe computer waits for client approval of the
order before executing the trade, and

the financial advisor computer is connected to the mainframe computer
such that, in response to the alert, the user of the financial advisor computer
can, in real-time, take action regarding the trade prior to execution of the
trade."

Claim 65 is specifically directed to the operation upon *successful validation*, while

independent claim 74 (discussed below) is specifically directed to the operation upon *non-

validation*. Claim 79, dependent from claim 74, recites both operations.

With regard to support for claim 65, Applicants specifically point to page 10, line 30-

page 11, line 1, providing that the multistep procedure enables the system to "cancel orders

where a substantial time lapse between placing and execution of an order occurs..." For

example, if (1) the client inputs the order for a trade, (2) the mainframe computer validates

the trade and sends the successful validation notification to the client, and (3) the client does

not submit client approval within a certain period of time, the system can act to cancel the claim.

Applicants have carefully reviewed Ray et al., but have found no teaching or discussion of this multistep procedure now recited in claim 65. In particular, it is true that Ray et al discloses, for example, in Fig. 2, a Financial Advisor Personal Computer 200 connected to the Base Station CPU (e.g., a mainframe). However, Applicants have been unable to find anywhere in Ray et al. a description of anything that the Financial Advisor Personal Computer 200 actually does, other than perhaps being the entity that provides research information (see col. 2, line 64-col. 3, line 3). More particularly, Applicants have been unable to find any teaching or suggestion of the multistep procedure now recited in claim 65, either by Financial Advisor Personal Computer 200 or by any other entity or combination of entities in Ray et al.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 65, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, is patentably distinct from the cited prior art.

As mentioned above, new independent claim 74 is directed to the operation when the multistep procedure produces a *non-validation* result, i.e., the mainframe computer declines to execute the trade. Claim 74 has the same initial recitations as claim 65, and then further

recites:

> "such that in response to a client of a user of the financial advisor computer entering an order to trade a financial instrument:
>
> the mainframe computer determines whether the order is validated or not, and notifies the client of successful validation or non-validation, respectively,
>
> in the case of non-validation, the mainframe computer transmits an alert to the financial advisor computer indicating that the order has been blocked that includes information pertaining to the trade; and
>
> the financial advisor computer is connected to the mainframe computer such that, in response to the alert, the user of the financial advisor computer can, in real-time, take action regarding the trade prior to execution of the trade.

Again, Applicants have been unable to find anywhere in Ray et al. a description of anything that the Financial Advisor Personal Computer 200 actually does, and moreover Applicants have been unable to find any teaching or suggestion of the multistep procedure recited in claim 74, either by Financial Advisor Personal Computer 200 or by any other entity or combination of entities in Ray et al.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 74, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, is patentably distinct from the cited prior art.
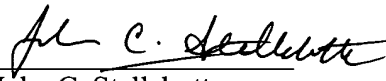
Applicants further respectfully submit that dependent claim 79, reciting the operations after each of validation and non-validation, recites a distinct new combination that is not found in or suggested by the cited prior art.

Applicants have found nothing in the other prior art of record that would remedy the above-noted deficiencies of Ray, et al. as a reference against the pending claims.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow claims 65-67 and 72-79

and to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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